

RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN DENTISTRY

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

19 October 2011

A meeting of the Board of Examiners in Dentistry was held on the above date at the RI Department of Health, Beck Conference Room, Providence, Rhode Island. A quorum was established and the Chairman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Board members in attendance were: Board members not in attendance were:

**Craig VanDongen, DDS, Chairman Mary Lou Buonaccorsi
Christine Benoit, DMD, Vice-Chairwoman Joseph Box, DDS
Henry Levin, DMD
Joseph G. Samartano, Jr., DDS
Robert Bartro, DMD
Maureen Ross, RDH
Susan Perlini, RDH, Secretary
Bernard Manchester**

Staff members in attendance were: Others in attendance were:

Gail Giuliano, Board Administrator Kerri Friel, RI Dental Assistants Association Mary Ellen Simas, RIDHA

At this time, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the Open Minutes of 21 September 2011. It was noted that Ms. Friel's first

name is Kerri not Kelly as recorded. Upon motion of Dr. Samartano seconded by Dr. Levin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes as amended.

Sub-Committee for Dental Licensure

Dr. Samartano reported the following Dental License/Permit(s) have been issued since the last meeting:

Dental Licenses

Julia Faigel, DMD Danny S. Apostolopoulos, DDS

Sub-Committee for Dental Hygiene Licensure

Ms. Perlini reported the following dental hygienists have been licensed since the last meeting:

Dental Hygiene Licenses issued since last meeting

Kalia Yang, RDH

Dental Hygiene Licenses w/ local anesthesia permit issued since last meeting

Amanda Leal, RDH

Dental Hygiene Licenses w/anesthesia & nitrous permits issued since last meeting

Tara Lynn Dodson

Dental Hygiene Anesthesia Permit

Helga Pregnolato, RDH

Maryellen C. Simas, RDH

Laima Carp, RDH

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Dr. Samartano raised the question as to whether a dentist who employs a dental hygienist certified to administer nitrous oxide must also hold a permit to administer nitrous oxide. After discussion it was determined that although the office must have an active facility permit, there is nothing in the Rules & Regulations that would require the dentist to hold a personal anesthesia permit.

The Administrator reported that amended Rules and Regulations will become effective at the end of October.

At this time, Dr. Benoit, called for a motion to adjourn the “Open Session” and enter into “Closed Executive Session” for the purpose of discussing disciplinary matters pursuant to the applicable exceptions of the “Open Meeting Law”, so called of Chapter 42-46-5 sub-division (1) and (4) of the General Laws. Upon motion by Dr. Bartro, seconded by Dr. Samartano, the Board entered into closed

session at 9:05 a.m.

Ms. Friel, and Ms. Simas recused themselves from the meeting at this time.

The Board returned to “Open Session” at 9:45 am.

Ms. Friel and Ms. Simas returned to the meeting at this time.

Decisions Ratified and/or closed in Closed Session

The following cases were closed with findings of No Unprofessional Conduct:

DEN 26-11, DEN 27-11, DEN 28-11, DEN 36-11, DEN 40-11, DEN 42-11, DEN 53-11

Sealing of the Closed Executive Minutes

The Chairman called for a motion to seal the minutes of the “Closed Executive Session” of 21 September 2011 meeting pursuant to Section 42-46 (1) and (2). Upon motion of Dr. Levin, seconded by Dr. Benoit, the Board voted unanimously to seal the closed minutes of that meeting.

Dr. Samartano provided members with an article relating to Botulinum toxin injections by dentists. The Board will discuss this at the next meeting.

Dr. Benoit advised that thirty-nine states grant civil immunity to dentists who agree to donate services to underserved populations. The Administrator advised that the Department does offer a volunteer license to retired dentists, but it is not within the jurisdiction or purview of the Health Department to grant civil immunity to healthcare practitioners. Based upon this information Dr. Benoit withdrew her request.

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for 16 November 2011 in the Beck Conference Room.

Upon motion of Dr. Levin, seconded, by Mr. Manchester, it was unanimously VOTED by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Gail P. Giuliano, Administrator
RI Board of Examiners in Dentistry**